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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/057,427	01/25/2002	Alexander Ksendzov	0007975-0032	9706
23600	7590	06/04/2004	EXAMINER	
COUDERT BROTHERS LLP 333 SOUTH HOPE STREET 23RD FLOOR LOS ANGELES, CA 90071			AL NAZER, LEITH A	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			2828	

DATE MAILED: 06/04/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

DETAILED ACTION

Allowable Subject Matter

1. Claims 6, 7, 17, and 18 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

2. The following is a statement of reasons for the indication of allowable subject matter:

The prior art of record does not teach or suggest the limitations found in dependent claims 6, 7, 17, and 18. With respect to claims 6 and 7, Bernard et al '342 and Stepanov et al '165 both fail to teach the waveguide being made of silicon-oxide and silicon-oxinitride. With respect to claims 17 and 18, Bernard et al '342 and Stepanov et al '165 both fail to teach the waveguide being made of silicon-oxide and silicon-oxinitride. Therefore, claims 6, 7, 17, and 18 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

3. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

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4. The factual inquiries set forth in *Graham v. John Deere Co.*, 383 U.S. 1, 148 USPQ 459 (1966), that are applied for establishing a background for determining obviousness under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) are summarized as follows:

1. Determining the scope and contents of the prior art.
2. Ascertaining the differences between the prior art and the claims at issue.
3. Resolving the level of ordinary skill in the pertinent art.
4. Considering objective evidence present in the application indicating obviousness or nonobviousness.

5. Claims 1, 5, 8, 9, 12, 16, 19, and 20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Bernard et al '342 in view of Stepanov et al '165.

With respect to claims 1 and 12, Bernard teaches a narrow linewidth hybrid semiconductor laser apparatus comprising a semiconductor gain chip (10) coupled to a single external feedback element (16), the external feedback element comprising a ring resonator and a grating (figures 6 and 7; column 6, lines 47-51). Claims 1 and 12 require the grating be a Bragg grating. Bragg gratings are well known in the art and are often used as feedback structures, as is evidenced by Stepanov (column 4, lines 13-18). At the time of the invention, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art to take the system of Bernard and provide a Bragg grating, such as that found in the system of Stepanov. The motivation for doing so would have been to obtain a feedback element with desired characteristics, such as Bragg reflection only at definite Bragg angles.

With respect to claims 5 and 16, Bernard teaches the external feedback element (16) being coupled to a waveguide (74; figures 6 and 7).

With respect to claims 8, 9, 19, and 20, Bernard teaches the ring resonator further comprising a waveguide ring and two straight waveguide sections (figures 6 and 7).

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Response to Arguments

6. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1, 5, 8, 9, 12, 16, 19, and 20 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

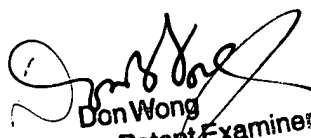
Communication Information

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Leith A Al-Nazer whose telephone number is 571-272-1938. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday 7:30am-4:00pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Don Wong can be reached on 571-272-1834. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

LA


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